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THE AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL CENTRAL CLUB.

SUBJECT—*Fencing.*

The first General Meeting of this newly organized body was held in one of the rooms of the Court House, in this City, on the 4th instant. There was a large attendance of farmers, gardeners, professional men and amateurs. G. W. Allan, Esq., (late Mayor) as President of the Club, occupied the Chair. William McDougall, Esq., Editor of the *Agriculturist*, opened the discussion. The subject was,—“The best methods of *fencing*, adapted to the wants of Canada.”

Mr. McDougall said he regretted some person better fitted for the task, had not been chosen to introduce to that intelligent assembly the important subject they had met to discuss. But as he never wished to shirk any duty that might be imposed upon him, where the interests of Agriculture are concerned, he would briefly submit a few thoughts and statements for the consideration of the meeting, in the hope that they would be supplemented by more valuable information than he was able to impart. After congratulating the Chairman and gentlemen present on the very auspicious commencement of their labors, and declaring that no questions could be more interesting, more patriotic, or more generally useful than those which would come under the notice of the Club, he said he would pass as rapidly as possible over the notes he had prepared, in order to give all the gentlemen present—and he was happy to see so large a number—an opportunity of expressing their views. The subject for present discussion is of a very practical character. It affords little scope for learned research, or scientific disquisition. It is nevertheless of great importance to the farmer, and any improvement that will lessen the expense, increase the efficiency, or render more durable, structures which in our system of mixed husbandry cannot be dispensed with, is well worthy the attention of a Farmers and Gardeners' Club. I shall submit the question for consideration under the following general heads:—

1. The necessity for fences in Canada.
2. Capital invested in them, &c.
3. Dead fences.
4. Live fences.
5. Conclusion, and attempt to answer the question.

1. That it would be impossible to do without fences in a country where each 200 acres, often each 100, or less, belong to a different proprietor, and where the soil is, with scarcely any exception, adapted to the production of grain, no one, with any show of reason, can affirm. In many parts of Europe, where large estates are owned by a single proprietor, and where only a portion,—and that perhaps a small one—is arable, the rest being pasturage, fences are “few and far between.” The *in field* and *out-field* system of